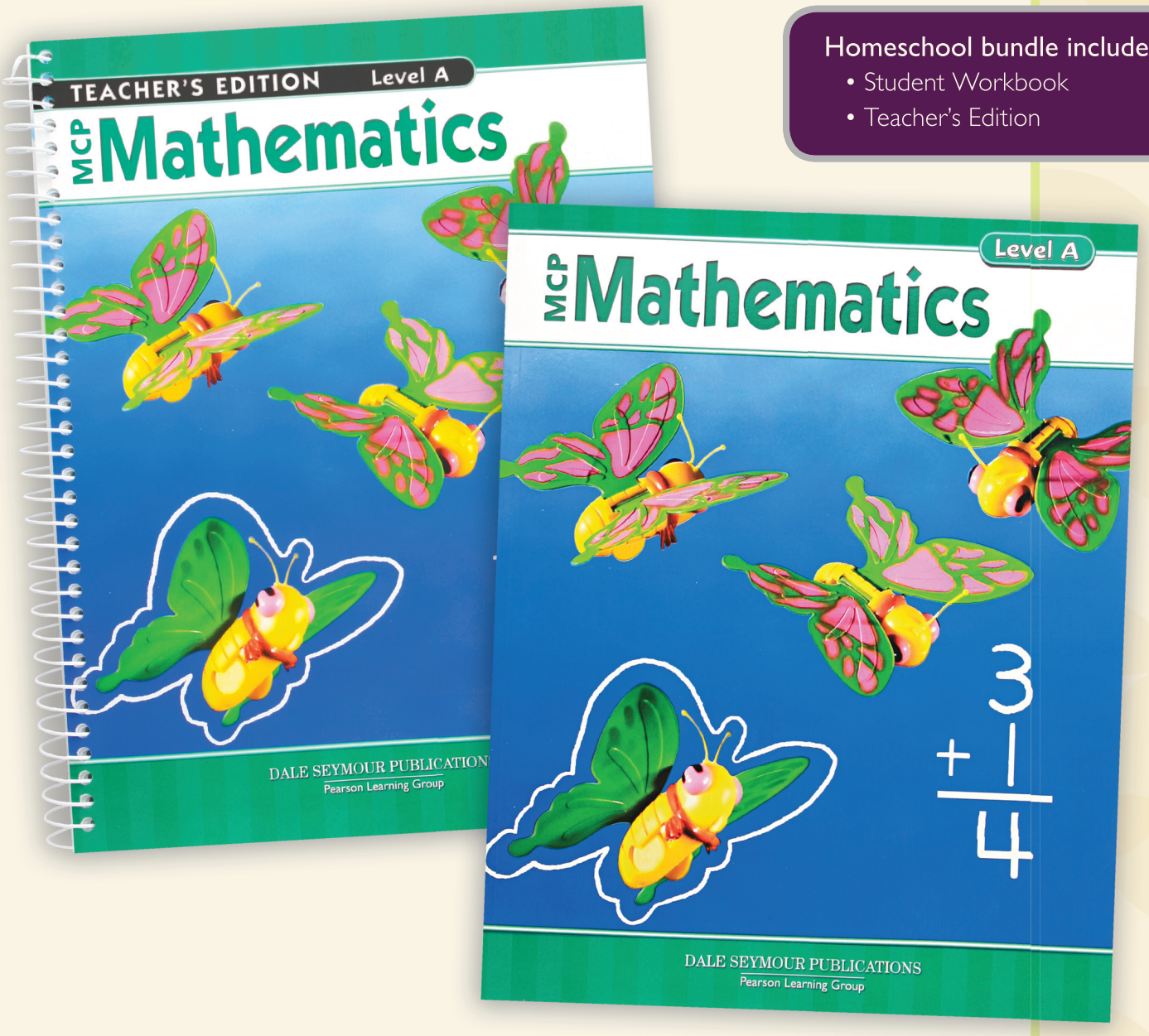
PARENT GUIDE

MCP Mathematics



Homeschool bundle includes:

- Student Workbook
- Teacher's Edition

Because You Know What Matters Most

Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child's unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you'll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child's learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!

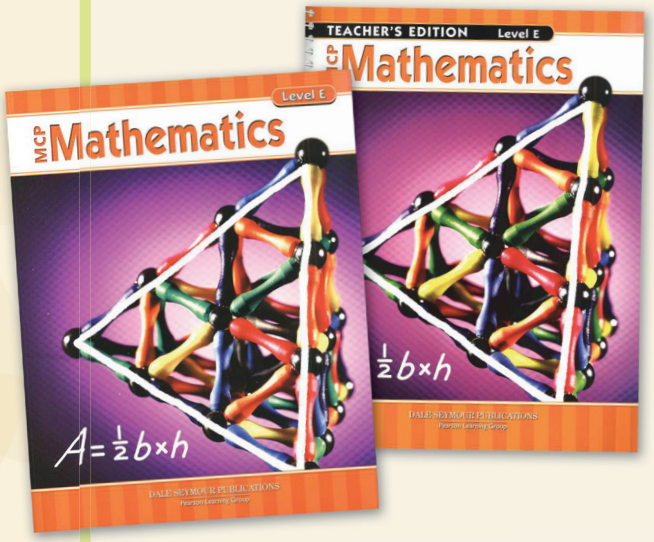
Preparation

It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can't wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: "How will I ever cover all of this material?" You may be flooded with insecurities that you don't know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don't have to know all of the material. It's fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.



Overview

The *MCP Mathematics* homeschool bundle includes the following components:

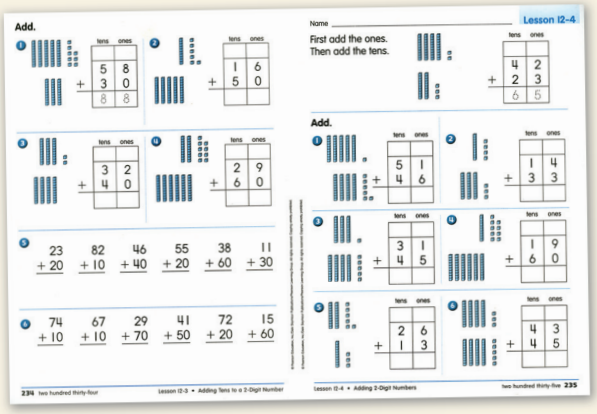
- Student Workbook
- Teacher's Edition

MCP Mathematics is a seven-level, comprehensive math program to help your K-6 child develop a solid mathematics background. It is designed to encourage critical-thinking skills, active participation, and mastery of skills within the context of problem-solving situations. The program features a developmental sequence, to introduce and extend skills taught in most mathematics curricula - such as number sense, operations, algebra, geometry, data collection and analysis, logic and probability.

The *MCP Mathematics* program is based on research, so your child will benefit from the solid approach to mathematical understanding. After being introduced to the lesson concept, guided practice opportunities are provided to get started. This is followed by abundant practice to help your child master the skills, and finally, apply their skills to problem-solving and enrichment activities.

Using the Materials

Pearson curriculum materials are thoughtfully planned to present the subject in a way that is engaging. Each lesson builds upon itself, but provides flexibility so you can make it your own.



Using the Student Workbook

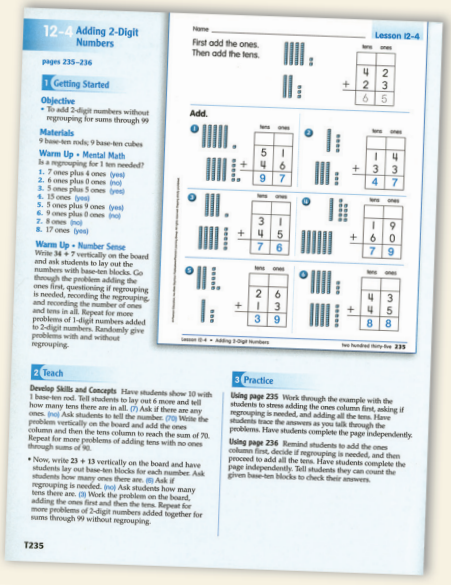
Each two-page lesson focuses on one main objective. The first page begins with a developmental model to get your child started. The second page of the lesson provides practice and extension of the lesson's objective. You can begin the process of individual mastery by assigning practice exercises. That is followed by the Now Try This section. Use these activities to extend the basic skill work, and to make learning the concepts fun, while challenging.

Additionally, there are activities in each lesson that focus on different problem-solving strategies. Friendly and easy to follow, the SEE, PLAN, DO, CHECK process will help your child with problem solving by helping them understand the problem, plan a method to solve the problem, work through the answer, and check their accuracy. This is followed by a series of exercises for additional practice applying the problem solving strategy. Finally, Calculator lessons teach your child to use the technology, while reinforcing chapter content.

Assessments and tests are found throughout the course so you can monitor your child's progress and ensure he or she comprehends the material.

Using the Teacher's Edition

Each *Teacher's Edition* begins with an overview of the program and a step-by-step walk through the *Student Workbook* and *Teacher's Edition*. This is followed by the lesson plans for each of the sections within the *Student Workbook*. The lesson plans are presented in a two-page layout, with teaching instructions around a copy of the student pages, annotated with the exercise answers. Finally, the back of the *Teacher's Edition* includes alternative chapter tests, if your child needs additional practice with the chapter concepts.



Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track, progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons but remember, lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the school year.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the materials to see how they are structured. There are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well.

Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- the portion of text covered during the lesson
- key concepts
- activities to do
- assignments given
- main ideas of the lesson
- questions to ask
- potential field trip ideas
- materials and resources needed

MCP Mathematics includes detailed, 4-step lesson plans for all chapter lessons throughout the program. The program is designed to cover approximately one lesson per day over the course of 180 days. The lesson plans are presented over two pages for efficient planning and instruction. Each lesson plan identifies the pages covered in the *Student Workbook* and begins with a Getting Started section. The Getting Started section will list the lesson objectives, vocabulary, and materials needed to teach the lesson's concepts. Be sure to gather any needed material ahead of time. The Getting Started section will also provide some warm-up exercises to stimulate your child prior to beginning the lesson.

The next section of the lesson plan is the Teach section. This will provide you with the guidance for teaching and developing the skills and concepts within the lesson. The third section of the lesson plan offers some practice help with the lesson. The final section, Assess, provides short questions or an activity that can be used to quickly evaluate if your child has grasped the main objective of the lesson.

Finally, in the margin of the lesson plan you will find a section titled For Mixed Abilities. This will offer guidance for providing additional instruction, if necessary, as well as enrichment activities and ideas to further the lesson's concepts.

At the end of each chapter you will have the opportunity to administer a chapter test, as well as a cumulative test to assess your child's comprehension of the chapter and course skills presented. You also have an alternative chapter test at the back of the *Teacher's Edition* that you can use for further review and assessment.

Adapt the Curriculum to Fit your Situation

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that you know the instruction is personal. Everything you teach will be personalized to fit your child.

Pacing

Pacing to fit your child's learning style and your schedule is easy with the *MCP Mathematics* program. Since each lesson leads into self-guided practice, this program easily adapts to your schedule. As your child progresses through the course you will be able to adjust the pace to fit their learning style. If your child picks up the concepts quickly, assign less practice. If extra support is necessary, there are alternative tests and suggestions within the lesson plans to provide additional help.

Teaching is Everywhere

Part of the homeschool benefit is that teaching can occur all of the time, and wherever you are. You can incorporate learning into everyday life. It is easy to apply the skills in this program to daily activities outside of your homeschool environment. Whenever you encounter mathematical situations, use the opportunity to teach your child and involve them in the process so they can see how the skills they are learning apply in real world scenarios. Also, the lessons are portable - perforated pages make it easy to take lessons with you if you have a field trip or other errands planned.

Conflicting Materials

Any homeschool parent will be faced with the dilemma of what to do when you come across material in the curriculum you don't like or that you disagree with. No curriculum will ever be able to satisfy all of the beliefs, opinions or values held by each family. However, there are several approaches you can take in these situations.

One approach is to skip over the material in question. Another suggestion would be to use this as an opportunity for a special teachable moment. Review the material with your child. Discuss your feelings about the material, idea or value presented. Take the opportunity to prepare your child for the diversity of thought/opinion in the world and the need to be discerning of principles and ideas that may challenge yours.

There is a definite balance between having the freedom that homeschooling brings and the responsibility you assume in educating your child. The good news is that most families find that balance and it works for them.

Thank you

As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.

For additional programs to support your child's mathematics curriculum, please visit our website at:

www.PearsonHomeschool.com.

For product related questions, please contact 1-800-848-9500 or submit the Contact Us form available on our website.

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